



MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary
Joseph P. Gill, Deputy Secretary

April 15, 2010

Mark Pfefferle
M-NCPPC Montgomery County
8787 Georgia Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: SHA project compliance with local Forest Conservation ordinances

Dear Mr. Pfefferle:

This letter is to clarify the State Highway Administration (SHA) compliance with the MD Forest Conservation Act. Since SHA is a state agency, SHA projects comply with either of two state laws not Montgomery County's Forest Conservation Ordinance. For projects that are highway construction projects (which includes highways, interchanges, etc.), SHA complies with the Reforestation Law (NRA §5-103, Annotated Code of Maryland) which is administered by the MD Forest Service.

For all other SHA projects, SHA complies with the State Forest Conservation Act and Regulations (NRA §5-1601—5-1612, Annotated Code of Maryland) which is administered by the MD Forest Service. If SHA projects are proposed to impact existing County approved forest conservation long-term protected areas, Montgomery County should notify Tod Ericson of the MD Forest Service of the impact so that this long-term protection impact would be included in the project's review.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (410) 260-8511 or via email at mhoneczy@dnr.state.md.us

Sincerely,


Marian Honeczy, AICP, CA
Supervisor, Urban & Community Forestry

cc: Joel Bush, SHA Office of Environ. Design

